

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. A method of providing medical information in emergency
2 and non-emergency situations comprising:

3 a) providing a first medical information-containing
4 electronic device;

5 b) providing a second medical information-containing
6 electronic device, and a means for carrying the second device
7 such that the second device can be accessed by medical personnel
8 if a user is incapacitated;

9 c) maintaining the same medical information on each of
10 the first and second devices;

11 d) simultaneously reading or writing non-medical
12 information or medical information on the first and second
13 devices in a non-emergency situation, and reading information on
14 the second device in an emergency or non-emergency situation.

1 2. A system for providing medical information in emergency
2 and non-emergency situations comprising:

3 a) a first medical information-containing electronic device;
4 b) a second medical information-containing electronic
5 device, and a means for carrying the second device such that the
6 second device can be freely accessed by medical personnel if a
7 user is incapacitated; and

8 c) at least a pair of read/write devices for simultaneously
9 reading and/or writing information on each of the first and
10 second devices so that each device has the same medical
11 information thereon, and a computer system for each read/write
12 device for controlling the type of information that can be read
13 and/or written on the read/write devices, one read write device
14 and computer system designed to allow for writing of non-medical
15 information only, and the other read/write device and computer
16 system designed to allow for writing both medical and non-medical
17 information.

1 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the means for carrying
2 includes a bracelet for the wrist, a necklace for the neck, and a
3 locket to be carried in a shoe or other clothing.

1 4. The system of claim 2, wherein the second device is
2 read using a medical personnel reader when the user is
3 incapacitated and cannot produce the first device, and the
4 information read is one of displayed, played aloud, or
5 transmitted to a remote source for reading or a combination
6 thereof.

1 5. The system of claim 2, wherein the second device is
2 attached to a person's wrist, the medical information on the
3 second device relating to the person, and the information is read

4 using a medical personnel reader in a non-emergency or emergency
5 situation.

6 6. A system for providing medical information in emergency
7 and non-emergency situations comprising:

8 a) a medical information-containing electronic device and a
9 carrier for storing the medical information-containing electronic
10 device, the medical information pertaining to one of an the
11 inanimate object or a patient; and

12 c) a read/write device for reading and/or writing
13 information on the medical information-containing electronic
14 device, and a computer system for the read/write device for
15 controlling the type of information that can be read and/or
16 written on the read/write devices,

17 d) a read device for reading information on the medical
18 information-containing electronic device; and

19 e) a means for attaching the carrier to one of the inanimate
20 object or patient so that medical information about either the
21 inanimate object and/or the patient can be obtained by using the
22 read device.

1 7. The system of claim 6, comprising at least a pair of
2 medical information-containing electronic devices, one to be worn
3 by the patient, and one attached to the inanimate object, each
4 containing the same information about the patient.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the means for carrying
2 includes a bracelet for the wrist, a necklace for the neck, and a
3 locket to be carried in a shoe or other clothing.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is
2 read using a medical personnel reader when the user is
3 incapacitated and cannot produce the first device, and the
4 information read is one of displayed, played aloud, or
5 transmitted to a remote source for reading or a combination
thereof.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is
2 attached to a person's wrist, the medical information on the
3 second device relating to the person, and the information is read
4 using a medical personnel reader in a non-emergency or emergency
5 situation.

1 11. The system of claim 2, further comprising a medical
2 personnel reader capable of reading the first device, the second
3 device, or both.

1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the medical personnel
2 reader is a cell phone capable of transmitting the read
3 information, a portable reader with a display for displaying read
4 information, or a reader than employs a spring loaded reading
5 head.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein a medical personnel
2 reader is used in the step for the reading the second device, the
3 medical personnel reader capable of reading the first device, the
4 second device, or both.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the medical personnel
2 reader is a cell phone capable of transmitting the read
3 information, a portable reader with a display for displaying read
4 information, or a reader than employs a spring loaded reading
head.

1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the reading of
information on the second device is performed by transmitting
3 information using a signal.

1 16. The system of claim 6, wherein the medical-information
containing device transmits the information to the read device
3 for reading using a signal for transmission.

1 17. The system of claim 4, wherein the reading using the
2 medical personnel reader is performed using a signal from the
3 second device.

1 18. The method of claim 1, wherein the means for carrying
2 is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support,
3 and a metal capsule having a lid.

1 19. The system of claim 2, wherein the means for carrying
2 is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support,
3 and a metal capsule having a lid.

1 20. The system of claim 6, wherein the means for carrying
2 is one of a foldable locket, a locket with an extendable support,
3 and a metal capsule having a lid.

1 21. The system of claim 7, wherein the inanimate object is
2 a tag associated with one of a medical record and a medical
3 sample container.